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Information Session

Thursday, March 6, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.

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GOSSIP: TOO MANY BLURRED LINES FOR PATTON?

PAGE 07

metro®

BOSTON Tuesday, February 25, 2014 www.metro.us | t: MetroBOS | f: MetroBoston

OFFICE SWEET

One cool cube. With a bar, a game lounge, private phone booths and other amenities at WeWork's new office-share facilities, you won't spend just another day at the office. **Calling entrepreneurs.** Located on Melcher Street and Atlantic Avenue, the sites will house 2,200 desks for 600 companies. PAGE 02

Rob Weeks, left, and Hunter Perry show off the newly opened WeWork office-share space in Boston, where hundreds of local companies will be setting up shop. / NICOLAUS CZARNECKI, METRO

Alain de Botton. **Tabloid fodder for the thinking man**

PAGE 08

Turks and Caicos. **The cure for polar vortex blues**

PAGE 09

Toy story. **The latest playtime trends for boys and girls**

PAGE 10

1 NEWS

Top 3

What's trending online at Metro.us

1 'Justin Bieber's 'Baby' hits one billion views on Vevo'

2 'VIDEO: Men's Olympic speed skating gets remixed with "Mario Kart"'

3 'Hello, and no more Moviefone: Call-in service to be disconnected'

Today's tweet

"Robin Thicke separates from his wife right before he comes to #Boston. Well, well, well."

@laurlandry is intrigued by a Hollywood split.

Boston bombing

Tsarnaev gets additional death penalty lawyer

Accused Boston Marathon bomber Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, 20, added an expert on the death penalty to his defense team last week.

U.S. District Court Judge George A. O'Toole Jr. allowed the appointment of David A. Bruck because "the defendant has made a satisfactory showing that the appointment of Mr. Buck is 'necessary for adequate representation,'" according to a court order. METRO

MBTA death

Person struck and killed by commuter rail train in Billerica

A person was struck and killed by a train in Billerica on Monday morning, interrupting service on the Lowell Line.

Authorities received a call about 10 a.m. about a person struck by a train in the Pond Street area of Billerica, according to MBTA Transit Police. The victim's name was not immediately released, but a T spokesman said the victim was a "railroad trespasser." METRO

GOP

Christie, Romney due in Boston this week

Republican gubernatorial candidate Charlie Baker, who has defended embattled New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie's continued leadership of the Republican Governors Association, will attend a fundraiser in Boston on Thursday for the organization with Christie and former Republican presidential nominee Mitt Romney.

Christie will host the RGA fundraiser with Romney at a private residence on Thursday evening. An RGA spokesman said it is the group's policy not to disclose locations for private events that are closed to the press and the public. SHNS

The space includes a game lounge and a bar, and it has 2,200 desks like the one at which Tablelist Lead Engineer Andrew Barba works. / NICOLAUS CZARNECKI, METRO

WeWork to change Boston's office terrain

See more at www.metro.us

On the job. Two WeWork shared office spaces recently opened in Boston.

A New York-based co-working company is giving entrepreneurial Bostonians an innovative new space to practice its motto: "Do what you love."

Last week, Boston Mayor Marty Walsh cut the ribbon for the entrepreneurial eco-system known as WeWork, which, once completely up and running, will house 2,200 desks for 600 local companies, all cashing in on the future-friendly idea of shared office spaces.

The company has locations on Melcher Street in the Innovation District and on Atlantic Avenue, across from South Station.

Strolling through WeWork's Atlantic Avenue office is sure to evoke envy from any cubicle-dwelling office worker. The community kitchenette comes equipped with microbrew on tap and fruit-infused purified water. Tenants also have access to a game lounge, uniquely designed conference rooms, private phone booths, indoor bike storage and a host of other amenities.

"It seemed natural to open in Boston," said Hunter Perry, city lead of WeWork Boston. "It is a perfect landscape of technology and has amazing support. It's very forward-thinking and innovative, and there is room for lots of different entrepreneurs."

In addition to its new Boston locations, WeWork also has 17 spaces in New York City, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Washington D.C., Chicago and Seattle. A location in London is also on the horizon.

The comfortable and stylish space not only lends itself to collaboration, it promotes it.

"Our job is to push their objectives and connect people," said Perry. "We have this beautiful space to ultimately attract people to build their companies, and where small businesses and start-ups can thrive on both a local and national level."

Tenants are encouraged to make their space their own with signs or writing on the glass walls with dry-erase markers.

Having operated his New York branch out of WeWork's SoHo space, YEC co-founder and COO Ryan Paugh said he was eager to move his Boston team of five to the new shared space.

"Last week we had launch parties, and we got together with some cool entrepreneurs and met with a couple of people in the space that we've already figured out ways to collaborate with," said Paugh. "[WeWork] is going to bring a lot to the Boston community."

MORGAN ROUSSEAU
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WeWorking together

With last week's launch, small working groups of Boston's entrepreneurs, startup founders, small business owners and freelancers can snag spaces for between $550 per month (for one person) and $3,000 per month (for 6 people.)

- Month-to-month memberships are available.
- Desks in WeWork's shared lab spaces go for as little as $400 per month.
- Bigger spaces that can accommodate up to 20 people are also available.
- As a bonus, members can get to know each other at WeWork's weekly networking events.
- Visit www.wework.com for more information.

Quoted

"It seemed natural to open in Boston."
Perry

Cops recover drugs after man swallows bags

Inedible. Canton police successfully retrieve multiple baggies of cocaine.

Canton Police said they got "down and dirty" in their efforts to put an alleged drug dealer behind bars after they said he swallowed multiple baggies of cocaine.

Julio Angel Rivera, 45, of Roxbury, was charged with possession of drugs with intent to distribute and unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, according to Canton Police.

Police said that officers were conducting a drug investigation at about 5 p.m. Friday when they moved in to arrest Rivera.

Here's a look at the recovered evidence. / CANTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

When officers approached him, Rivera allegedly swallowed nearly three dozen baggies of cocaine before he was able to be handcuffed. Detectives obtained a search warrant for the baggies and Rivera was taken to Norwood Hospital because police said he ingested a potentially lethal dose of cocaine should the bags break during the digestive process.

"Rivera remained in custody in the Intensive Care Unit of Norwood Hospital where … detectives undertook the unpleasant task of successfully recovering the evidence after its journey through the digestive process," Canton Police said.

MICHAEL NAUGHTON
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Dangerous drive

Teen who hit Braintree cruiser allegedly high, using camera

A teenaged driver who hit a Braintree police cruiser was allegedly high and trying to video record another crash when he rear-ended the cop car.

William Sawyer, 18, of Braintree, hit the parked police cruiser Sunday night, according to the Patriot Ledger.

The officer, who was at the scene of another crash, was in the cruiser and was not seriously injured. Police said Sawyer's car smelled strongly of marijuana. METRO

MBTA crime

Everett man arrested for dealing drugs on Red Line

An Everett man allegedly sold drugs to a Dorchester man Thursday afternoon as the pair were aboard a Red Line train heading toward South Station, according to transit police.

Anthony Cogliano, 40, was charged with distribution of amphetamine after officers pulled him off the train along with his alleged customer, John Burgoon, 25.

Burgoon was charged with possession of the class B substance. METRO

Help for homeless families

Sarah (whose last name is withheld) enjoys a cookie as she spends a moment with state Sen. Stephen Brewer who received an award for his work helping homeless families. Sarah met Brewer when she and her family came to the State House on Monday to ask for assistance in finding a home. The event was held by the Home for Families organization. / NICOLAUS CZARNECKI, METRO

Hate paint

Hate crime stuns town residents

Several Middleborough residents woke to find swastikas and obscenities spray-painted on their homes and vehicles over the weekend, the Brockton Enterprise reported. Statements like "I like children in bed" were also painted onto homes. There are no leads. METRO

Training day

Drill held today for USS Constitution

Officials from the USS Constitution are warning people who live and work in Charlestown to not be frightened by a large police presence at the Charlestown Navy Yard today.

A multi-agency drill that will include state and local law enforcement as well as other emergency response agencies will be conducted this morning, according to a statement.

"Charlestown residents should not be alarmed by the presence of large numbers of law enforcement and emergency response vehicles in the vicinity of USS Constitution and Charlestown Navy Yard that morning," the statement said. METRO

"Old Ironsides"
NICOLAUS CZARNECKI, METRO

Gambling. Boston says casino developers not giving them enough info

A city attorney appealed to the Massachusetts Gaming Commission for help on Monday, saying that the developers of two potential resort casinos in neighboring cities are not providing Boston officials with enough information.

"We do think it is necessary for the commission to play a role to compel some of the information the city has been seeking. The time has come that the commission has to facilitate that sharing of information," said Elizabeth Dello Russo, an attorney for the city of Boston.

The comments made during Monday's gaming commission meeting make it appear that Boston and the two casino developers are not close to a community agreement as deadlines in the licensing process near.

The city has filed petitions to seek more time as it weighs its options in pursuing "host community" or "surrounding community" status for both Everett and Revere casino proposals.

As a host community, Boston would be entitled to more financial and other benefits from whichever casino is ultimately awarded the eastern Massachusetts license.

Dello Russo pointed to the need to understand the entrance and exit points proposed by Mohegan Sun, which is hoping to build a $1.3 billion resort at Suffolk Downs. She also said the city wants to know why Wynn Resorts plans to seek permits from Boston's transportation department.

A Wynn lawyer told commissioners that the developer has responded to Boston's request with all non-confidential and non-propriety documents.

MICHAEL NAUGHTON

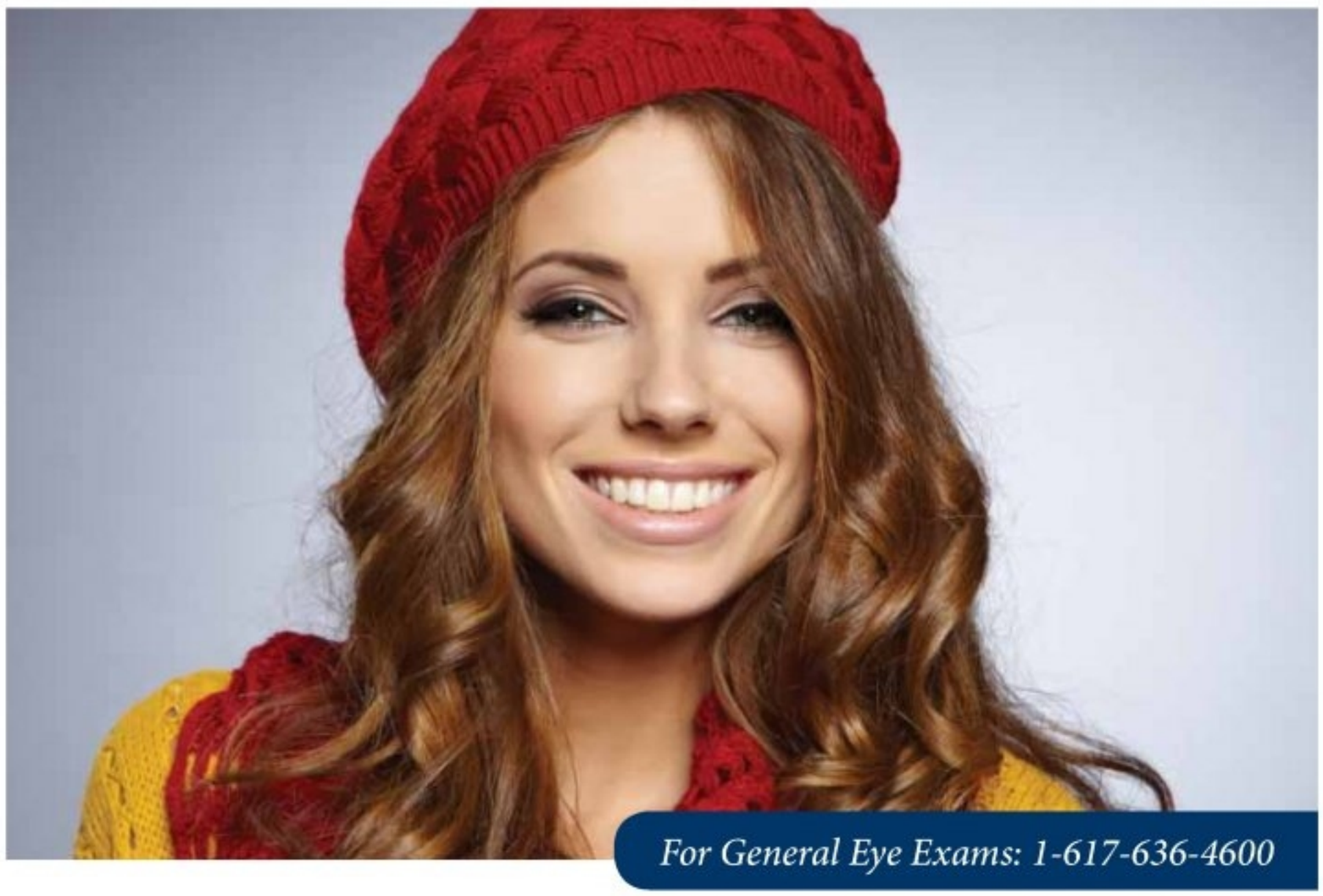
Cool reception

Commission Chairman Stephen Crosby seemed upset by the back-and-forth and lack of progress.

- "This is an unbecoming conversation and shouldn't be necessary," he said. "It's unbecoming and pointless and if you all can find a room and ... can resolve these issues, great. Get it done," he said.

State House resuscitation

Legislative aide Justin Thompson practices CPR on a dummy as Boston EMS workers and firefighters teach a class at the State House Monday to state employees. The event, which also offered defibrillator training, was sponsored by state Rep. Geoff Diehl. / NICOLAUS CZARNECKI, METRO



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New England Eye Center

AG seeks standard to protect against consumer ID theft

Industry. Federal laws don't regulate how retailers handle troubled data security.

Attorney General Eric Holder, citing the recent massive data theft at retailer Target Corp., urged Congress on Monday to enact a national standard for notifying consumers about such breaches.

"This would empower the American people to protect themselves if they are at risk of identity theft," Holder said in a statement urging congressional action. "It would enable law enforcement to better investigate these crimes — and hold compromised entities accountable when they fail to keep sensitive information safe."

Data thefts at Target and luxury retailer Neiman Marcus Group LLC have rekindled enthusiasm in Congress for a single federal law on how customers should be notified about such breaches. But those efforts face the same roadblock as in the past: Dozens of overlapping state laws are already in place.

Forty-six states and the District of Columbia have passed their own laws that tell companies when and how consumers have to be alerted to data breaches and what qualifies as a breach.

Negotiations over fitting state standards under an umbrella federal law therefore face a tug of war among companies, consumer advocates and state authorities.

The National Retail Federation in a January letter to Congress restated its decade-old position in favor of a nationwide standard that would preempt state rules. **REUTERS**

Quoted

"It's time for leaders in Washington to provide the tools we need to do even more. ... I'm calling on Congress to create a strong, national standard for quickly alerting consumers whose information may be compromised." Holder

Budget cuts slash Army to smallest since before WWII

The Pentagon said on Monday it would shrink the Army to pre-World War II levels, eliminate the A-10 aircraft and reduce military benefits in order to meet 2015 spending caps, setting up an election-year fight with Congress over defense priorities. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel, discussing the Pentagon's plan for meeting its new spending caps ahead of the budget presentation on March 4, advanced a number of ideas that have been attempted in the past but rejected by Congress or are seen as unpopular in a congressional election year. **REUTERS** / GETTY IMAGES

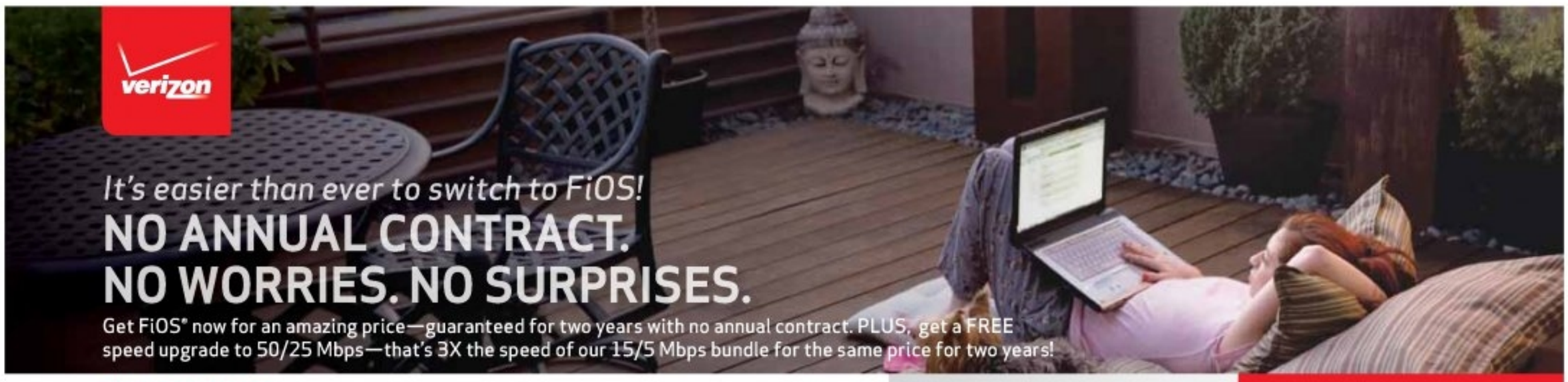
Health care

Ark. lawmakers to vote on funds for alternative to Obamacare

Arkansas lawmakers will try once again this week to provide funding for the state's Private Option medical insurance plan that has drawn interest from lawmakers in other states as an alternative to Obamacare.

The Arkansas Senate approved the $915 million appropriation for the Private Option plan last week, but the House narrowly rejected it in several votes last week. Gov. Mike Beebe said failure to pass the funding could blow a hole in the budget.

He warned that failure to pass the funding could lead to a loss of $89 million in projected savings coming from the Private Option, prompting drastic cuts in services. **REUTERS**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Justices question Obama climate change regulations

EPA. One outcome would preserve most of the program for facilities that already emit other pollutants.

Mitchell Power Station / GETTY IMAGES

EPA

Several justices questioned whether a loss for the EPA would be much of a setback.

The U.S. Supreme Court appeared closely divided on Monday over whether the administration of President Barack Obama exceeded its authority in trying to regulate greenhouse gas emissions.

Justice Anthony Kennedy would seem to hold the swing vote on the high court, with conservative justices skeptical of the Environmental Protection Agency's approach and liberal justices generally supportive.

Kennedy offered some criticism of the government's position but did not indicate which way he would vote.

Kennedy clashed with the Obama administration's lawyer, Solicitor General Donald Verrilli, over some of the government's legal arguments.

The justices are weighing just one aspect of the administration's first wave of climate change regulations, focusing on whether the agency has authority under the Clean Air Act to regulate greenhouse gases under a program for stationary sources of pollution, such as power plants. The court has various options if it finds fault with the government's conclusion that greenhouse gases should be regulated under the "prevention of serious deterioration," or PSD, program, which requires a new or modified major polluting facility to obtain a permit before any new construction is done if it emits "any air pollutant." The program requires facilities to install technology to control emissions of specific pollutants.

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Celebrity Cruises — 7-Day Bermuda sailing round-trip Bayonne — $499* — $699* $999* — Up to $300 Onboard Credit, Free pre-paid Gratuities or Free Bev Pkg
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Alec Baldwin resigns from famousness

You won't have Alec Baldwin to kick around anymore! / ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Here is a partial list of things and people Alec Baldwin slams in New York Magazine's cover story: the paparazzi, homophobes, people who think Alec Baldwin is a homophobe, "CSI," a man in Hawaii who answers the phone rudely, Shia LaBeouf, Rachel Maddow, Broadway, New York, America, the world, 2013.

Baldwin has penned a lengthy piece that is purportedly his resignation from public life, but the bulk of it is essentially a rebuttal to everything you've read or heard about him in the past year. Everything, from his failed attempt to co-star with Shia LaBeouf on Broadway to his canceled MSNBC show to allegations that he'd used a gay slur, is addressed and found to be the fault of a vicious paparazzi culture whose main purpose is to make Alec Baldwin look bad.

Baldwin keeps returning to one episode: An incident in 2013 when a photographer tried to take a picture of Baldwin and his baby daughter, and the actor chased him down the street cussing him out. According to TMZ, Baldwin used a gay slur directed at him. Baldwin insists that's not true, but blames the fact that he's been falsely labeled a homophobe for everything from the cancellation of his MSNBC show (well, he also blames Rachel Maddow for that) to the fact that he probably can't run for mayor of New York now.

I might have more sympathy for Baldwin's plight if he hadn't used the word "tranny" in the article. Still, the piece is amusing for exactly the thing Baldwin claims to deplore: celebrity gossip. Shia LaBeouf screamed at him for not knowing his lines! Rachel Maddow viewed him as "equivalent to Mel Gibson"! Juicy, Baldwin. Tell us more.

MELINDA TAUB

Pot, kettle

Dishing on LaBeouf

Regarding LaBeouf, with whom Baldwin worked on the Broadway production of "Orphans" before the younger star was fired: "He had that card, that card you get when you make films that make a lot of money that gives you a certain kind of entitlement," he claimed. "LaBeouf seems to carry with him, to put it mildly, a jailhouse mentality wherever he goes," he continued.

Harold Ramis dead at 69

Many comics choose to work in one field. Harold Ramis wound up in three. A writer, director and actor (and producer, and even, once or twice, songwriter), Ramis was a fixture of underground and mainstream comedy who had his hands in "Stripes," "Ghostbusters" and "Groundhog Day."

Ramis died Monday, at the age of 69, from complications of autoimmune inflammatory vasculitis, a rare disease involving the swelling of blood vessels. Ramis had been ill since 2010.

He found his greatest success with movies. He was on the writing teams responsible for "Meatballs," "Animal House," "Caddyshack" and "Stripes." He also acted in the latter, sharing the foreground with Bill Murray, with whom he would reunite for "Ghostbusters," in which he played unfailingly nerdy Egon Spengler.

Ramis' death robs us of the long-promised/threatened "Ghostbusters 3," which has spent at least 25 years in development hell. Dan Aykroyd had always been keen to do it, while Bill Murray had been very keen not to do it. Ramis' passing all but assures that we were spared of that threequel, however you'd like to interpret that verb. MATT PRIGGE

Pour out some Ecto Cooler for Ramis.

2 CULTURE

THE WORD

Dorothy Robinson takes on the world of gossip.

DOROTHY ROBINSON
@dorothyatmetro
dorothy.robinson@metro.us

Splitsville

Thicke and Patton are separating

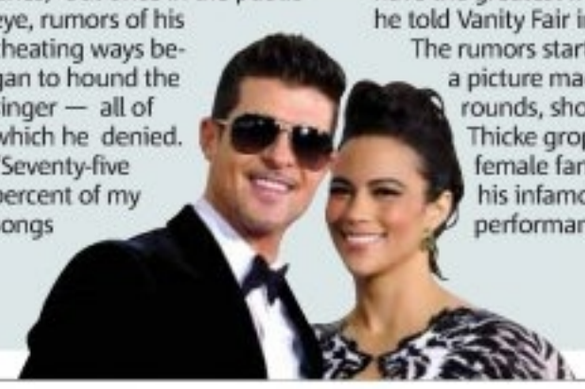
After months of whispers that Robin Thicke has been unfaithful to his wife Paula Patton, the celebrity duo dropped the bombshell yesterday that they are splitting up after two decades together.

"We will always love each other and be best friends," the singer and his actress wife told Us Weekly in a statement. "However, we have mutually decided to separate at this time."

Thicke, 36, and Patton, 37, are parents to son Julian, 3, and have been married since 2005.

Thicke sky-rocketed to fame last year with his hit "Blurred Lines," but once in the public eye, rumors of his cheating ways began to hound the singer — all of which he denied. "Seventy-five percent of my songs are about how much I love my wife and how much I need her. We've been married for eight years, and together since we were 16. We're very lucky to have the greatest friendship," he told Vanity Fair in October.

The rumors started after a picture made the rounds, showing Thicke groping a female fan's butt after his infamous VMA performance.



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Alain de Botton's new book, "The News: A User's Manual," is a thought-provoking look at the purpose of news. / GETTY IMAGES

ALAIN DE BOTTON

We talk to one of the world's most famous philosophers about his mission to challenge how we consume news.

TURNING TABLOIDS INTO ART

Philosophy's closest thing to a pop star, Alain de Botton, has mainstreamed his discipline through millions of book sales, TV shows and sold-out events. Even One Direction's Harry Styles is a fan (and friend).

Having already examined sex and spirituality, de Botton's latest focus is news, launching The Philosophers' Mail, an intellectual version of The Daily Mail that mocks the world's most popular news site by adding depth to its guilty pleasure splashes. Headlines such as "Interview with David Beckham's soul" and "Kiev is in flames and I don't care" challenge readers to consider their media diet.

We spoke to de Botton in London after the release of his new book, "The News: A User's Manual."

What concerns you about news and how we are consuming it?
The hope for news is that it will help us to live better lives and help our countries be better places by being more informed. Information should bring improvements, but that's not happening for a range of reasons.

What is the negative impact?
Sometimes it's a negative impact, sometimes a missed opportunity. The classic test is: Do you remember what was in the news last week? Most people can't. Our memory for information is very bad, which is a sign we're not being properly guided; We're being flooded with news and that's a problem. We have a hard time focusing on things that might matter, but it doesn't mean everything has to be earnestly serious. I'm a great believer in

material from popular news, but I'm not sure it's being handled properly.

How difficult is it to make philosophy accessible?
I'm really interested in bite-size. [Friedrich] Nietzsche and [Ludwig] Wittgenstein wrote in morsels; there's nothing wrong with trying to express an idea in 200 words. With The Philosophers' Mail we're trying to capture the news you would read in The Daily Mail, but use it as a springboard to something more profound.

You have stories about pedophiles, celebrities, etc. Is the aim to feature the most-clicked material?
Absolutely, we're really interested in being popular. What we want to do is to surprise people once they've clicked, and then stretch their ideas. But we don't see anything wrong with being responsive to clicks.

KIERON MONKS
kieron.monks@metro.lu

Q&A

How did The Daily Mail react to your spoof site?
We're really hoping they'll sue us because it would be a nice story, but they're too sensible. We have their ex-features editor, and he says they don't care. The book has upset some people — which I didn't intend. They think, "He doesn't understand." Newspapers like to present themselves as infallible, but they should be open to criticism from outsiders.

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Quiet Caribbean paradise

The Gansevoort in Providenciales is on Grace Bay, a top-rated beach. / PROVIDED

Serenity now. Go to Turks and Caicos before everyone knows about it.

The view from the hotel balcony isn't too shabby. / RACHEL VIGODA

Rooms at the Gansevoort, like this oceanfront studio, are Caribbean chic. PROVIDED

Looking for an action-packed adventure with ruins to hike, historic towns to tour and tons of local culture? You've come to the wrong place. But if you're dying to escape this year's vicious winter for a few days and laze on a beautiful beach, with no pressure to do anything but work on your tan, head to the Turks and Caicos island of Providenciales.

Just 3.5 hours flying direct from New York, Provo, as those in the know call it, is the most developed of the country's islands, located in the Caicos part of Turks and Caicos. But that's still not saying much in this sleepy chain.

Grace Bay, one of the top-rated beaches in the world, is home to a handful of high-end hotels, including the Gansevoort, a sleek option with an urban vibe different from many other Caribbean resorts. "We try to stay away from wicker," joked Jorge Collazo, regional director of sales and marketing at Gansevoort Hotel Group.

Instead, you'll enter the hip hotel via a minimalist open-air lobby and walk through to the 7,000-square-foot courtyard pool, flanked by lounge chairs and "lounging islands" set out over the water. The gym and spa are to the right; the restaurant, Stelle, is on the left.

Up ahead is the beach, which is open to the public. But since the hotel is set slightly apart, there's less foot traffic. The sand is white, soft and clean — hotel staff sweep the beach in the mornings, and there's even a wooden rack just before the beach where you're expected to stash your flip-flops.

If the thought of more than a couple of hours lazing under an umbrella in the sand makes you antsy, sign up for a boat trip to check out the snorkeling over Bight Reef in Princess Alexandra National Park, just off Provo. If you're lucky, one of the crew will dive down to score a few conch (pronounced "konk") and slice off a bite for you to try.

For those who prefer food prepared in a kitchen, behind the scenes, head to Da Conch Shack, where you can order conch frittered, fried, curried, ceviched or tossed in a stew or salad. The mollusk is considered an aphrodisiac — so watch who you eat it around.

RACHEL VIGODA
rachel.vigoda@metro.us

PLUS

Turndown service

Where to stay

The Gansevoort Turks & Caicos definitely isn't cheap, but with impeccably maintained rooms, top-notch service (including pillowcases embroidered with your initials), exquisite views from oceanfront balconies and the onsite Exhale spa, it's worth the splurge for a long weekend.

Age: 5 years

Number of rooms: 91 (84 oceanfront, seven facing the pool)

Room types: Studios, one-, two- and three-bedroom suites, and penthouses with full kitchens

Dining: Upscale Mediterranean restaurant and casual beach bar. The hotel can also set up a private table on the beach or by the pool.

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March Madness is nearly upon us. If you're looking to head to the Lone Star State for the Final Four games April 5-7, check out this beautiful vacation rental in Arlington, Texas, on HomeAway.com. Located just four miles from AT&T Stadium, the three-bed, two-bath home features a professionally landscaped backyard oasis complete with a saltwater swimming pool. You and your basketball buddies can fire up the grill and go for a swim before the games. Nightly rates start at $300. Search rental ID #3465257 for more information on this listing or check out other rentals.

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The new toy trends for 2014

Last week, more than 1,000 toy manufacturers descended on the Javits Center in New York City to showcase prototypes for the toys that will invade stores later this year. Here, we give the lowdown on the latest toy trends so you'll know what's cool even before your kids will. EMILY LAURENCE

Zombies

Vampires are so last year. This year, zombies have taken over toys — for both boys and girls. Razor Jr. is releasing new scooters for kids ages 3 and up that have oversized zombie hands, which serve as soft, handlebar grips. A line of zombified Disney princesses also will be coming out later this year: Snow White, Cinderella, Ariel, Belle and more all have a new, creepy-cool look.

Science specialty brand Smart Lab is coming out with the Inhuman Squishy Zombie. Kids can take the zombie's organs out, which helps them learn about the human body. It also comes with an educational graphic novel, written by an eighth grade teacher who came up with an entire curriculum based around zombies.

Customizable

This year is all about customization. Hasbro will be releasing My Monopoly, which allows families to customize the board using their Facebook and Instagram photos. There is also a new toy called Super Hero Mashers coming out, which allows kids to create their own superhero using parts of other superheroes — for example, having Thor's body but the Hulk's hands.

Retro with a twist

Toys you played with as a kid are resurfacing in a big way. A new Lite-Brite is on the market, only now it is made of rubber so you can reuse the patterns that used to be made of paper. The pegs also have fun, new shapes. Last year, you may have noticed that View-Masters came back. Toy company Basic Fun rereleased the vintage toy with "Despicable Me" models and are continuing to add to that line.

Basic Fun also is adding to the Strawberry Shortcake line. If you've watched the TV show, you know Strawberry Shortcake is now a rock star. The toys coming out later this year feature Strawberry and her friends with rainbow colored hair (rainbow hair is another huge toy trend), that sing and "play" instruments. Kids can go to the toy's website and download the band's new songs, which the dolls will then sing.

Taking tech to a whole new level

Almost every toy coming out this year has a tech tie-in. Most action figures come with QR codes, which kids can scan using a phone or tablet to unlock a digital game. Over the past year, Crayola has become a leader in tech. This month, they released My Virtual Fashion Show, which allows kids to color clothing designs in a paper look book. When they're done, they can scan the pages using a phone or tablet and their designs come to life, with models wearing the looks in a virtual fashion show. Crayola is releasing a new deluxe version of that toy later this year as well as one aimed at boys, where kids can design cars. Kids will be able to customize their car and then "drive" it, using the app.

Bigger than ever

From doll houses so big American Girl dolls can live in them, massive teddy bears and life-size MarioKart Go-Karts, toys are bigger than ever. They're not very apartment friendly, we know. One toy that at least is built vertically instead of horizontally is Chugginton's Stacktrack. The train tracks are built up, not out. The brand recently set the world record for the tallest train tracks with a 17-foot track. It's just one of the new toys that shows that when it comes to playtime, the sky's the limit.

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Last week, Boston.com asked you to select the best guilty pleasure romance film in the fourth annual Romance Rumble. Now you can view the winning film, **Serendipity**, at a special screening event on Wednesday, March 5th at Theatre 1 at Revere Hotel Boston Common.

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Horoscope

♓ Pisces | Feb. 19-March 20. You should use discretion when dealing with others today. Many people respect your opinions and will look to you for guidance and advice.

♈ Aries | March 21-April 20. Keep your opinions and ideas to yourself. It is not necessary to reveal your secrets to others. A conversation with an old friend may provide inspiration.

♉ Taurus | April 21-May 21. Information you have recently received may have had a negative effect on your life. Dwelling on the issue is not productive. Swallow your disappointment.

♊ Gemini | May 22-June 20. You may be tempted by an appealing investment offer. Do your research thoroughly before you commit to anything. You have an innovative idea that can benefit your friends.

♋ Cancer | June 21-July 22. Have a heart-to-heart discussion with someone who concerns you. Take care to avoid criticism, and offer helpful ideas that will bring you closer to an agreement.

♌ Leo | July 23-Aug. 22. Prepare to focus on business matters today. There is opportunity for advancement if you exceed your employer's expectations. Being industrious will enable you to work toward fulfilling your career goals.

♍ Virgo | Aug. 23-Sept. 22. Be assertive, and direct your efforts into socializing and networking. Your personal and business relationships will improve if you make new acquaintances.

♎ Libra | Sept. 23-Oct. 22. Family and friends may not be totally honest with you. Find someone impartial to provide the answers to your questions. A self-improvement project will turn out well.

♏ Scorpio | Oct. 23-Nov. 21. Your commitment and determination will provide you the necessary ingredients to get ahead. Fulfill your obligations in order to realize your expectations.

♐ Sagittarius | Nov. 22-Dec. 21. You should consider previous outcomes before taking action. If your tried-and-true methods have worked in the past, there's no need to change your approach.

♑ Capricorn | Dec. 22-Jan 20. Formulate a concrete plan for an important discussion. Have a clear idea of your own responsibilities, and consider the expectations of others.

♒ Aquarius | Jan. 21-Feb 18. Your compassion and understanding will help others accomplish worthwhile goals. Your good deeds will be reciprocated in an unusual manner.

BERNICE BEDE OSOL

Letters

Do we need a reason to clean up the Earth?

Re: 'Earth in flux' (Metro, Feb. 24) The letter about climate change reminded me of the cartoon where a skeptical member of the audience at a climate change conference says: "What if it is a big hoax and we create a better world for nothing?"

BRIAN BECK, VIA EMAIL

To climate change deniers like T. Owens: Why not just "man up" and allow the sacrifices necessary to make our planet a healthier, less polluted world? The problem I have with all of your arguments is that if history proves you to be wrong — life on Earth as we know it is OVER! Is that a gamble you're willing to make on behalf of your children and grandchildren?

RICHARD FEINBERG, VIA EMAIL

Bag the blight

Re: 'Cities, towns move forward with bans on plastic bags' (Metro, Feb. 19) What I hate about retail plastic bags is that, when the trees have no leaves, once the bags are free to roam, they fly up in the air and get caught in tree branches, where they can stay for years. Whenever I see one floating around at ground level, I try my best to catch it to stop additional blight. For this alone I am for a statewide ban. San Francisco banned them, and people now own a few reusable nylon or cloth bags that don't rip, saving a lot of resources.

DALE P. KLINE, VIA EMAIL

Online

Read letters at Metro.us

In addition to news, features, updates and more, Metro is posting letters to the editor at Metro.us.

letters@metro.us

Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words. Metro reserves the right to edit all letters. Please include your name and contact info.

Sudoku: Easy and hard

	2				1			
3	1		7			9		
	5	8				6	1	
			5	9				4
	6	7		4		2	3	
4				2	6			
	7	5				8	4	
		2			4		9	5
			9				2	

4		3		1		8		7
			4			3		
	7				5			4
	3		1	4			7	
	4						6	
	9			8	3		2	
5			9				8	
		6			4			
3		7		6		2		9

How to play
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Crossword

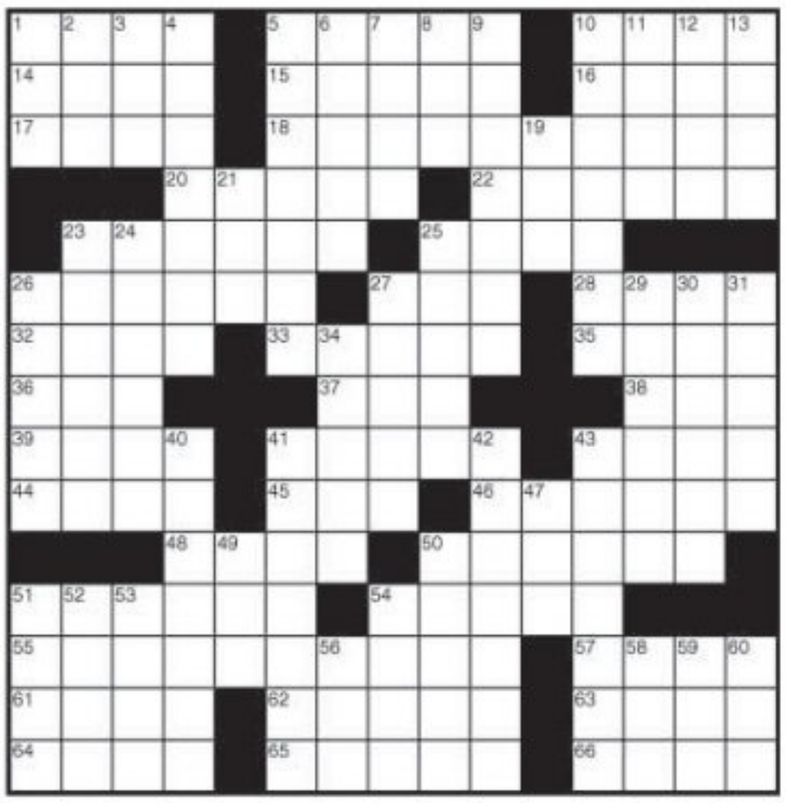
Across
1 Pain in the neck
5 Hung open
10 Parroted
14 Barking noises
15 Excuse
16 Lascaux, for one
17 Gold-coated
18 Reef explorer (2 wds.)
20 Black-and-white snacks
22 Current
23 Avila saint
25 Jellystone bear
26 Beach near Los Angeles
27 Egg producer
28 Marched along
32 Indigo plant
33 Entreat
35 Cellist — Ma
36 Finale
37 911 staffer
38 Colo. setting
39 Prez's stand-in
41 Rental contract
43 An evening out
44 Vortex
45 Home page addr.
46 "Silas —"
48 Risque
50 Shooting star
51 Bwana's trek
54 Prepared apples
55 Equivocators
57 Egg on
61 — spumante
62 Keno kin
63 New Age singer
64 Steel- -- boots
65 German industrial center
66 Regard as

Down
1 Vacuum part
2 Jackie's tycoon
3 Super Bowl gp.
4 Resort near Lisbon
5 Makes a pit stop (2 wds.)
6 Bauxite giant
7 Vatican name
8 Diminish
9 Pure carbon
10 What litmus measures
11 Do road work
12 Continuously
13 Bruce or Laura
19 Half-star movie
21 CSA defender
23 No longer pale
24 Skipped syllables
25 Poet W.B. —
26 Ms. Binchy
27 Pertaining to blood
29 Cheese often grated
30 Off-white
31 Granny, often
34 Suspicious
40 Khufu's edifice
41 Kenny Rogers hit
42 Thoreau's friend
43 Coated with flour
47 Gourmandized
49 Still exist
50 -- Carlo
51 Word to a feline
52 Chan rejoinder (2 wds.)
53 Kismet
54 Bunkhouse items
56 Aurora, to Socrates
58 Singleton
59 Yes, to Angus
60 Pond maker

Yesterday's answer

Interactive Crossword

You can use your smartphone to discover today's crossword answers — right now! Download and open the Blippar app on your smartphone and hold the screen over the puzzle. It's that easy!



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3

SPORTS

Vick to Jets?

Reports say Jets interested in Vick

According to NFL.com's Ian Rapoport, the Jets are a "legitimate" destination for dynamic quarterback Michael Vick. Rapoport cites the presence of former Eagles coordinator Marty Mornhinweg in New York and the team's wide-open quarterback situation as reasons why the Jets could sign Vick before the start of the 2014 season.

Watch online

Find video and a recap of Monday night's Celtics-Jazz game: **Metro.us/sports.**

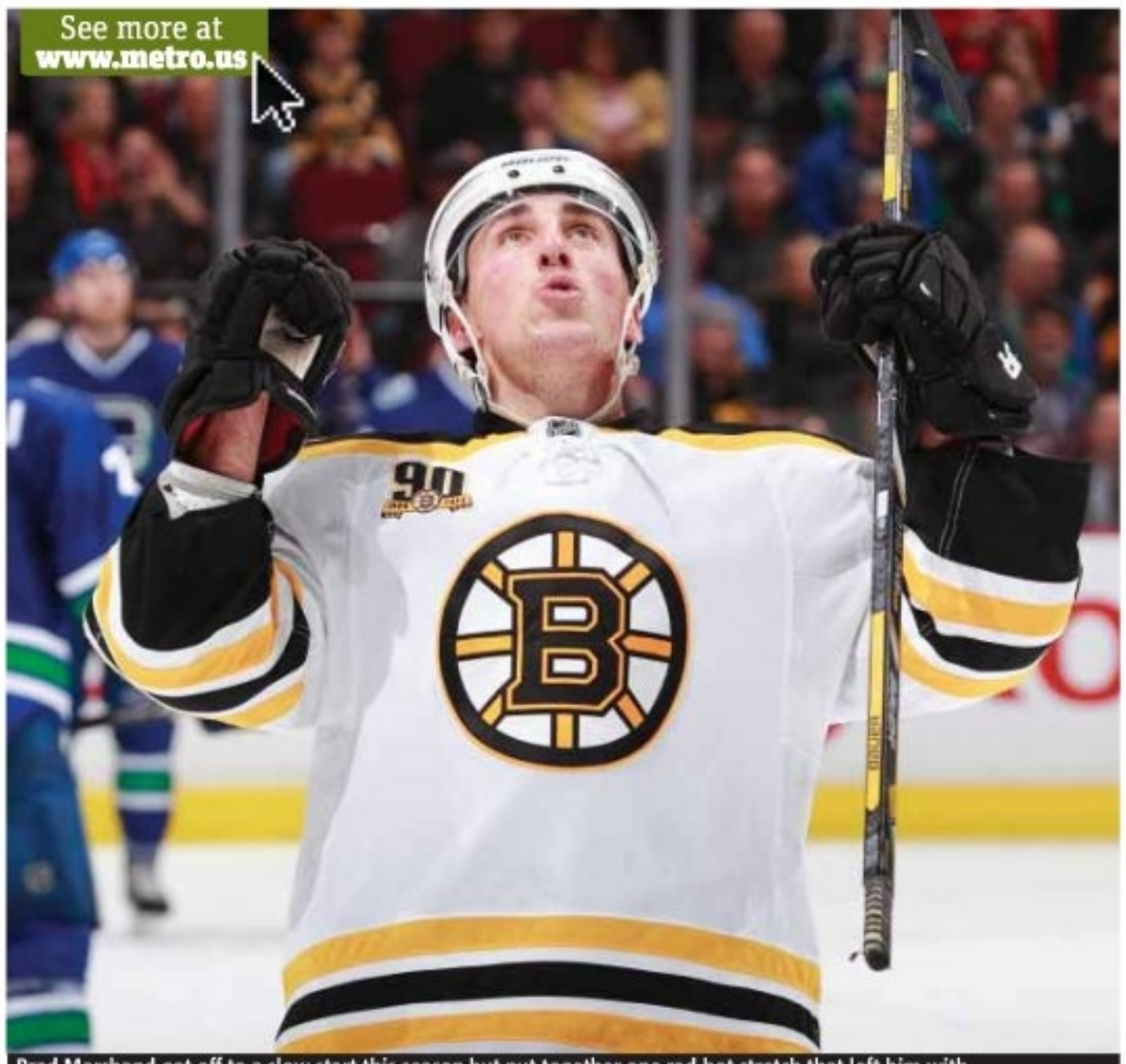
Midseason report card: Bruins ace the first half

NHL. The majority of B's make the honor roll as Boston preps for another run at the Stanley Cup this spring.

Sitting pretty in second place in the Eastern Conference with 78 points, the Bruins closed 8-1-2 before the Olympic break. They are only five points behind Pittsburgh for first in the East and are seven points ahead of Tampa Bay in the division. When they hit the ice in Buffalo on Wednesday, the B's (37-16-4) will begin a 25-game sprint to the postseason.

Just like their first-half success was expected, the Bruins are on the short list of Stanley Cup contenders going forward, especially when you consider the relative weakness of the East compared to the West. When you look at their roster, you realize that they've played so well because nearly every player has reached or surpassed his own individual potential in 2013-14.

RICH SLATE
sports@metro.us



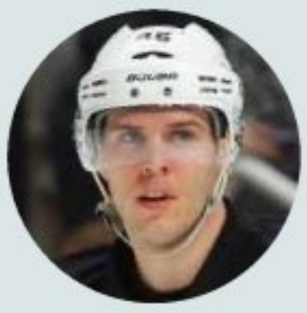
Brad Marchand got off to a slow start this season but put together one red-hot stretch that left him with a team-leading 19 goals at this point in 2013-14. / JEFF VINNICK, GETTY IMAGES

Golden semester

How the Bruins grade out after the first half of the season:

- **Claude Julien:** The B's offense has scored the third most goals in the East this season. **Grade:** A–
- **Patrice Bergeron:** Second best in the NHL in face-offs at 59.7 percent. **Grade:** A
- **Zdeno Chara:** Give the 36-year-old some rest in the second half. **Grade:** B–
- **Brad Marchand:** Always the X-factor. **Grade:** B–
- **Carl Soderberg:** Has made Boston's third line more formidable. **Grade:** C+
- **Gregory Campbell:** The only B's regular with a negative plus/minus. **Grade:** C–
- **Loui Eriksson:** Seeing him pick up a silver in Sochi showed what he can do on the big stage. **Grade:** Incomplete

For full Bruins team grades, please see: www.metro.us



David Krejci

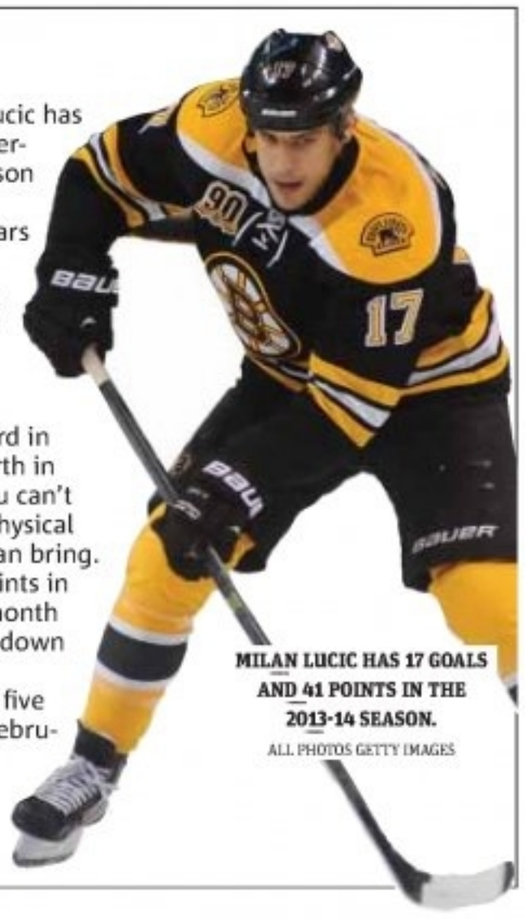
His reputation for coasting in the regular season was already well established, but so far in 2013-14 he's been an entirely different player. Krejci leads the Bruins with 50 points (13 goals, 37 assists) and he's played in every game. He's always been known as a big-game performer, so another high-scoring postseason could be in his near future.
Grade: A

Milan Lucic

Similar to Krejci, Lucic has proven to be a different player this season after too many underachieving years in Black and Gold. If he was from any other country than Canada, he would have been a no-brainer for Sochi.

He's tied for third in goals (17) and fourth in points (41), but you can't put a stat on the physical presence that he can bring. Lucic posted 12 points in the season's first month and hasn't slowed down since.

The winger has five points already in February despite having played just four games.
Grade: A



MILAN LUCIC HAS 17 GOALS AND 41 POINTS IN THE 2013-14 SEASON.

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Dougie Hamilton

You look at Hamilton's numbers (six goals, eight assists, plus-13) and you feel like he's capable of so much more. Unfortunately, injuries cost him 16 games in the first half — and even though he's big in size, he usually doesn't play like it. Still, he's only 20 years old and is in his second season in the NHL. Boston has no reason to panic yet for what should be their top defenseman in the near future.
Grade: C

Shawn Thornton

He has the lowest ice time on the team so it's hard to measure his production. I put him down here since I find it impossible to overlook his awful incident with Pittsburgh's Brooks Orpik that led to his 15-game suspension. He's still one of the most popular players with his teammates, but losing his mind like that at the age of 36 has to make the Bruins pause.
Grade: D+

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You are not alone—cat allergies are one of the most common forms of allergies in the United States and Europe. As you know, the symptoms can significantly reduce your quality of life. The sneezing, itchy and burning eyes and skin, and stuffy or runny nose can be unbearable. You may have even tried multiple different treatment options with no improvement.

That's why physicians in your area are conducting a clinical research study of an investigational medication to see if it helps reduce the symptoms associated with cat allergies.

You may qualify to participate if you are between the ages of 12-65, live with a cat, and have experienced cat allergies for at least two years.

Qualified participants will receive all study-related care, [including physical exams, lab services and study medication at no cost.] [Insurance is not required and compensation for travel and services may be available.]

To learn more, please contact:
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Medical Research DIRECTORY

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SUFFER FROM OCD?

Do you or does someone you know suffer from obsessive-compulsive disorder?

Adams Clinical Trials is conducting a study of an investigational medicine in adults with OCD.

Participants may be compensated up to $100 per completed visit in the 14 visit study.

Please call (617) 387-1706 or visit adamsclinical.com to learn more or sign up.

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to place an ad call 866 900 9473

or visit us at www.metro.us

Are you still Depressed?

Taking medication to treat depression, but still feel Down? • No interest in activities? • Loss of energy?

Boston Clinical Trials is conducting a new clinical research study of an Investigational drug for DEPRESSION.

Call today (617) 477-4868 or email studies@bostontrials.com

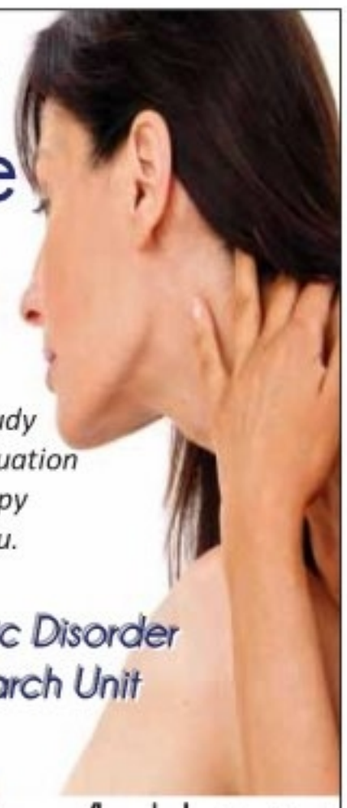
Compensation may be provided to qualified participants

Free parking, near public transportation, evening appointments available.

BCT Boston Clinical Trials

For more information visit www.bostontrials.com

Do you hate what you see in the mirror?



You may be eligible to take part in a research study and receive an evaluation and psychotherapy at no cost to you.

Body Dysmorphic Disorder Clinic & Research Unit

www.mghocd.org/bdd

(877)4MGH-BDD

Search Clinical Trials

Check Medical News

Help Find a Cure

Check out our NEW website:

ZipTrials.us

Powered by metro

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO SUFFERS FROM SUDDEN URGES TO URINATE AND INCONTINENCE?

If the answer is yes,

We're conducting a clinical research study of an investigational combination of two approved study drugs for overactive bladder. Each of the study drugs works in a different way to each other, so the investigational combination is being evaluated to see if it may offer additional relief the patient is looking for

Participants will receive, at no cost, study-related care, monitoring, and study drug.

If you qualify and complete the study you could be compensated up to $350 for your participation.

To learn more please contact

Bay State Clinical Trials

617-923-0328

Northeastern University, Department of Psychology

Participate in a Psychology Research Study at NU!

People with NO exposure to the bombings also welcome to participate!

THREAT PERCEPTION AFTER THE BOSTON MARATHON BOMBINGS

Earn up to $120 helping us examine how the Boston Marathon Bombings impact threat perception!

This is a longitudinal study that involves coming in to the lab three separate times over the course of one year. Each experimental session lasts approximately 1.5 hours and takes place in Nightingale Hall at Northeastern University in Boston, MA.

For more information, please contact: threatperceptionstudies@gmail.com

You must be 18-65 years old, fluent in English, and have normal vision to participate.

FIGHT ASTHMA!

Participate in our clinical research trials.
Compensation up to $2,000.
Please text ASTHMA to 88202 to learn more.

BWH BRIGHAM AND WOMEN'S HOSPITAL

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[Median Age – Metro: 36, Herald: 54]

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Exp. Wanted in:
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Saturday March 1st
from
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100 Everett Ave. - Chelsea, MA

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Brad Erickson at 603-285-6401
To learn more & apply, please visit us at:
http://www.delta-mgt.com

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Dunkin' Donuts stores located in Boston and at Logan Airport are hiring sales/crew members for all shifts; overnight, morning and evening. P/T and F/T available. Training will be provided. Transportation available for early morning (3:30am) shifts at Logan Airport. Good pay and benefits (401K, vacation, health and dental insurance).

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Panera Bread and Panera Cares bakery-cafes

offer flexible schedules through a variety of shifts, highly competitive pay, benefits, exciting career path potential, and an opportunity to work for an industry leader that is making a difference in our local communities.

It's a great time to join our amazing Boston area teams!

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- Sandwich/Salad Makers
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Notices

Notices

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Credit cards accepted.

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Psychic

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Do you have a legal notice that you need to publish?

Metro is a newspaper of record with the Suffolk Probate, Middlesex Probate and Land Court!

Publishing your notices with Metro will satisfy your legal obligation and can save you money in the process!

Do you need to publish a notice for:

- Mortgage Sale of Real Estate
- Public Notice
- COB Liquor License
- Licensing Board
- Notice of Public Hearing
- Divorces
- Care and Protection of Parental Rights
- Notice of Sale of personal Property
- Transportation
- Order of Notice

Contact the Metro today and find out how we can help while saving you money!

Herman Miles: 617-532-0105

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Vehicles Wanted

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We pay more for junk cars, Than Anyone in Boston Vans, Truck , Any Size, any condition,

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Junk or Repairable Cars Wanted

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Extra Cash paid for
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DEADLINE: two (2) business days prior to publication at noon.

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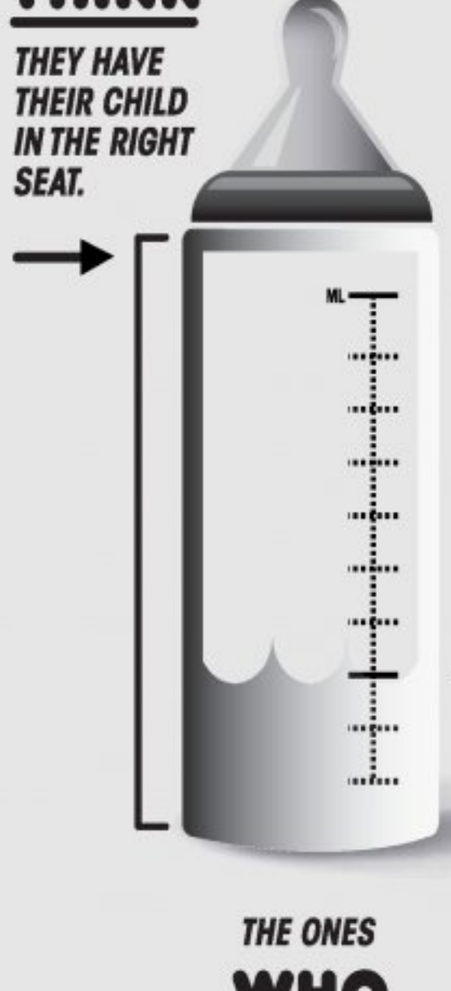
CHOOSE CAR SEAT: BY AGE & SIZE

THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE **WHO THINK** THEY HAVE THEIR CHILD IN THE RIGHT SEAT.



THE ONES **WHO ACTUALLY DO.**

KNOW FOR SURE
IF YOUR CHILD IS IN THE RIGHT CAR SEAT.

VISIT SAFERCAR.GOV/THERIGHTSEAT

Ad Council
NHTSA
Child Car Safety

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